

1. (Currently Amended). A compound according to formula (I) ~~hereinbelow~~:

(I)

(II)

alk is a C₂₄ straight or branched alkylene chain.

R3Oc1cc2nc(R1)n(c2c1)c3nc[nH]3

(II)

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~~and physiologically acceptable salts or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof~~, wherein

R¹ represents C₁₋₄ alkyl;

R² represents optionally substituted phenyl or CONR⁴R⁵;

R³ represents optionally substituted phenyl or heteroaryl;

R⁴ and R⁵, independently represent a ~~group-substituent~~ selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, optionally substituted C₁₋₆ alkyl, optionally substituted C₃₋₇ cycloalkyl, optionally substituted C₃₋₇ cycloalkylalkyl, heterocyclyl, and heterocycloalkyl, or R⁴ and R⁵ together form a ring.

3. (Currently Amended). A compound or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein the compound is according to claim 1 selected from the group consisting of:

4-{1-Ethyl-6-[(4-fluorophenyl)oxy]-7-phenyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]pyridin-2-yl}-furan-3-amine;

4-{1-Ethyl-7-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-[(4-fluorophenyl)oxy]-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]pyridin-2-yl}-furan-3-amine;

4-{1-Ethyl-7-{3-[(ethylamino)methyl]phenyl}-6-[(4-fluorophenyl)oxy]-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]pyridin-2-yl}-furan-3-amine; and

4-{7-{[(3*S*)-3-Amino-1-pyrrolidinyl]carbonyl}-1-ethyl-6-[(4-fluorophenyl)oxy]-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]pyridin-2-yl}-furan-3-amine.

4-7. (Canceled)

8. (Previously Presented). A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 1 and a suitable carrier.

9. (New). The compound according to Claim 2 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein

R² represents CONR⁴R⁵ or phenyl optionally substituted with 1 to 3 substituents selected from the group consisting of halo and alkylaminoalkyl;

R³ represents phenyl optionally substituted with halo, acylamino, or CH₃C(CH₃)₂-OC(O)-NH; and

R⁴ and R⁵ independently are H or C₁₋₆ alkyl or together form a ring.